IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Terry A. Todd, et al.

Serial No. : 10/602,654 Filed : June 25, 2003

Confirmation No.: 1041

Group : 1793

Examiner : James Fiorito

Title : METHOD OF STRIPPING METALS FROM ORGANIC SOLVENTS

DOE Case : S-99.482

Customer No.: 31972

PETITION & FEE FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

Commissioner of Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Patents Petitions Examiner, Building CP3, Room 11A09

Sir:

This Petition is being submitted prior to receipt of a Notice of Abandonment for the above-identified application for failure to timely pay the Issue Fee which should have been due December 24, 2007.

Applicant's Attorney hereby declares that the original Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due for 10/602,654 was never received and the Corrected Notice of Allowance dated December 10, 2007 was received on December 26, 2007, which was beyond the time limit set to pay the Issue Fee had the notice of allowance been mailed on or around September 24, 2007, as listed on the transactions in PAIR for this case.

S.N. 10/252,879

This Petition transmits documents which should provide satisfactory evidence that the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due referred to above, was not received by Applicant through the U.S. Mail service.

The attachments are:

Declaration of Betty A. Winchester, with attachments

Applicant hereby requests that the forthcoming holding of abandonment occurred through no fault of the applicants or their representative.

In view of these facts, Applicants attorney respectfully petitions that the forthcoming Holding of Abandonment of this application be withdrawn and the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due be re-mailed by the USPTO so that payment may be timely made.

You are hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account 01-2752 of the United States Department of Energy \$130.00 which is required for the filing of this petition.

Sincerely,

/John T. Lucas/

John T. Lucas Registration No. 36860 Attorney for Applicants

Attachments

Dated: March 4, 2008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Terry A. Todd, et al.

Serial No. : 10/602,654

Filed : June 25, 2003

Confirmation No.: 1041

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Examiner : James Fiorito

Title : METHOD OF STRIPPING METALS FROM ORGANIC SOLVENTS

DOE Case : S-99.482

Customer No.: 31972

DECLARATION OF BETTY A. WINCHESTER IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT BASED ON FAILURE TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181</u>

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: Petitioners Examiner

Sir:

I, Betty A. Winchester, hereby declare:

That I am a Paralegal Specialist in the Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property of the United States Department of Energy;

That I was in that position in September 2007;

That my duties at that time included the processing of all domestic Notices of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, Office Actions and other forms of Communications received from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO);

That our office procedure is that all such Notices are to be delivered to me by the person who opens the mail, unless I personally open the mail, in which case I take them to my desk for further processing;

10/602.654

That I maintain a computerized record of all received Office Actions, Notices of Allowance and Issue Fee Due and other such papers from the PTO:

That I maintain a file wrapper record of all received Notices of Allowance and Issue Fees Due and other such PTO documents:

That if a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due from the PTO had been received by this office in September 2007, I would have placed a copy of the Action in the file, entered a record of that paper on the front of the file wrapper and in our database and forwarded the Action to the assigned attorney for further action;

The following documents are attached for clarification of our office procedure based on documents received from the PTO:

Attachment A: copy of the front of the DOE file wrapper for

10/602,654 which shows all documents filed

and received on this application

Attachment B: copy of a page from our docket showing that

actions received from the PTO are properly

docketed

Attachment C: copy of PAIR transactions for 10/602.654

showing that the "Mail Notice of Allowance" was listed but not performed by the PTO

That upon receipt of a Corrected Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due dated December 10, 2007 a call was placed to the PTO to Examiner Fiorito on December 26, 2007 to inquire as to where the original Notice of Allowance was. It was found in PAIR that there was an entry that the Notice of Allowance was to be mailed on September 24 but no further indication that it was actually mailed. Then, on December 10, 2007 the PTO mailed out the Corrected Notice of Allowance but it was not received until after the original due date of December 24 for the payment of the Issue Fee:

That I questioned Examiner Fiorito, Examiner Langel and Examiner Silverman as well as several employees in Group Art Unit 1793 and the Publication Branch of the USPTO, as to the steps to be taken to rectify this situation by getting a new Notice of Allowance mailed to us with a renewed start date. They all agreed that this could not

10/602.654

be accomplished through them and that a Petition would be necessary. These phone conversations took place on various dates from December 26 through January 24, 2008:

That I acknowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of application serial number 10/602,654 or any patent which may be issued thereon.

That all statements made herein are of my own knowledge and belief are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Winchester Paralegal Specialist Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer

and Intellectual Property

202-586-2810

Attachments

Dated: March 4, 2008

| Action Due | Action | Attorney | S-Number | Country |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| 3/1/2008 | Election Period | O'DWYER, Thomas | 109004 | United States |
| 3/1/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109299 | United States |
| 3/1/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109296 | United States |
| 3/1/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109297 | United States |
| 3/1/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 109982 | United States |
| 3/1/2008 | Election Period | SCHNEIDER, Emily | 107485 | United States |
| 3/2/2008 | Election Period | O'DWYER, Thomas | 109036 | United States |
| 3/2/2008 | Election Period | O'DWYER, Thomas | 109041 | United States |
| 3/2/2008 | Election Period | O'DWYER, Thomas | | United States |
| 3/3/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108283 | United States |
| 3/3/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108282 | United States |
| 3/3/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 109998 | United States |
| 3/4/2008 | Third Maintenance Fee | MOSER, William R. | 084180 | United States |
| 3/4/2008 | TRADEMARK/SERVICEMARK FEE | PATEL, Vinit H. | 094589 | United States |
| 3/4/2008 | TRADEMARK/SERVICEMARK FEE | PATEL, Vinit H. | 094573 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108289 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108290 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108294 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108295 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 108298 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109295 | United States |
| 3/6/2008 | Info Discl. Statement | LaMARRE, Mark | 110897 | United States |
| 3/7/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109302 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110202 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 109997 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110210 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110205 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110206 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110207 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110208 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110204 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 110209 | United States |
| 3/8/2008 | Rejection w/1 Month Extension | SMITH, Bradley | 104265 | United States |
| 3/9/2008 | Election Period | SCHNEIDER, Emily | | United States |
| 3/9/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 106775 | United States |
| 3/9/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 106776 | United States |
| 3/9/2008 | Election Period | LEWIS, Fred A. | 106777 | United States |
| 3/9/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | 109999 | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109298 | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | Election Period | SCHNEIDER, Emily | | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | Election Period | | 109703 | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109304 | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | Election Period | DURKIS, James | 109308 | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | Issue Fee Due | PATEL, Vinit H. | 099482 | United States |
| 3/10/2008 | FINAL Rejection w/3 Month Extension | PATEL, Vinit H. | | United States |
| 3/12/2008 | US Application to be filed by | PATEL, Vinit H. | | United States |
| 3/13/2008 | File Formal Appln. By Due Date | BAKER, Lisa | | United States |
| 3/13/2008 | Election Period | DVORSCAK, Mark | | United States |
| 3/13/2008 | Election Period | | | United States |
| 3/13/2008 | Second Maintenance Fee | | | United States |
| | Election Period | | | United States |
| | | | | |
| | Election Period | I FWIS Fred A | U03384 | United States |
| 3/14/2008 | Election Period Final Rejection | | | United States United States |

Patent eBusiness # 1

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Attachment C

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Portal Home | Patents | Trademarks | Other | Sign-Off Authenticated Session

| XML Down | load Order Certified Application As Filed | | | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 10/602,654 | METHOD OF STRIPPING METALS FROM ORGANIC SOLV | | | |
| Sélect New Case | Application Transaction Image File Patent Term Foreign Published Document Adjustments Priority Document | | | |
| Transaction | n History | | | |
| Date | Transaction Description | | | |
| 12-10-2007 | Mail Corrected Notice of Allowance (Response period NOT restarts | | | |
| 12-04-2007 | Corrected Notice of Allowance | | | |
| 12-04-2007 | Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU | | | |
| 10-26-2007 | No Government Interest - Patent to Issue to Applicant (No Letter | | | |
| 10-01-2007 | 90-Day Letter to DOE | | | |
| 09-24-2007 | Mail Notice of Allowance | | | |
| 09-24-2007 | Mail Examiner's Amendment | | | |
| 09-24-2007 | Notice of Allowance Data Verification Completed | | | |
| 08-16-2007 | PG-Pub Issue Notification | | | |
| 03-29-2007 | Receipt of all Acknowledgement Letters | | | |
| 01-18-2007 | Intentionally Referred by OIPE or L&R | | | |
| 12-11-2006 | Examiner Interview Summary Record (PTOL - 413) | | | |
| 12-20-2006 | Examiner's Amendment Communication | | | |
| 11-30-2006 | Date Forwarded to Examiner | | | |
| 11-16-2006 | Response after Non-Final Action | | | |
| 11-16-2006 | Request for Extension of Time - Granted | | | |
| 07-18-2006 | Mail Non-Final Rejection | | | |
| 07-10-2006 | Non-Final Rejection | | | |
| 06-19-2006 | Date Forwarded to Examiner | | | |
| 06-15-2006 | Response to Election / Restriction Filed | | | |
| 05-16-2006 | Mail Restriction Requirement | | | |
| 05-12-2006 | Requirement for Restriction / Election | | | |
| 04-05-2006 | Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU | | | |
| 03-20-2004 | IFW TSS Processing by Tech Center Complete | | | |
| 03-20-2004 | Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU | | | |
| 11-08-2003 | Application Return from OIPE | | | |
| 11-08-2003 | Application Return TO OIPE | | | |
| 11-07-2003 | Application Dispatched from OIPE | | | |
| 11-10-2003 | Application Is Now Complete | | | |
| 0-16-2003 | Additional Application Filing Fees | | | |
| .0-16-2003 | A statement by one or more inventors satisfying the requirement | | | |
| 9-10-2003 | Notice MailedApplication IncompleteFiling Date Assigned | | | |
| | | | | |

| 08-28-2003 | Agency Referral Letter Mailed |
|------------|--|
| 08-21-2003 | Referred by L&R for Third-Level Security Review. Agency Referral |
| 08-20-2003 | Referred to Level 2 (LARS) by OIPE CSR |
| 07-17-2003 | IFW Scan & PACR Auto Security Review |
| 06-25-2003 | Initial Exam Team nn |
| | |

If you need help:

- Call the Patent Electronic Business Center at (866) 217-9197 (toll free) or e-n Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR).
- Send general questions about USPTO programs to the USPTO Contact Center
 If you experience technical difficulties or problems with this application, pleasing Support or call 1 800-786-9199.

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